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PTO/SB/30 (08-00)
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number 09/896,877

Filing Date June 29, 2001 #14/RCE

First Named Inventor Wendell Noble P. 6/20/03

Group Art Unit 2812

Examiner Name L.A. Gurley

Attorney Docket Number MI22-1757

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____

(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☒ Other Postcard; Petition for Extension of Time

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

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ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

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iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$860.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)

D. B. Kenady

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

40,045

Signature

[Signature]

Date

June 12, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)

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Signature

Date

June 12, 2003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. 09/896,877
Filing Date June 29, 2001
Inventor Wendell P. Noble
Assignee Micron Technology, Inc.
Group Art Unit 2812
Examiner L.A. Gurley
Attorney's Docket No. MI22-1757
Title: Methods of Forming Electrical Connections (As Amended)

**RESPONSE TO FEBRUARY 12, 2003 FINAL OFFICE ACTION
ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

To: Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: D. Brent Kenady
Tel. 509-624-4276; Fax 509-838-3424
Wells St. John P.S.
601 West First Avenue, Suite 1300
Spokane, WA 99201-3828

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Responsive to the Final Office Action dated February 12, 2003, Applicant amends and remarks as follows:

AMENDMENTS

Underlines indicate insertions and ~~strikeouts~~ indicate deletions.